

Filed for intro on 01/28/2002

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 526

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ruth R. Broyles of
Jonesborough, Washington County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the death of Mrs. Ruth R. Broyles; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles was an exemplary public servant and consummate
professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in
numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Sullivan County, Mrs. Broyles was the loving daughter of the late
Floyd L. and Ethel Gross Rutledge; and

WHEREAS, after earning her high school diploma from Washington College High
School, Mrs. Broyles was led by her thirst for knowledge and outstanding ability to pursue a
Bachelor's degree from Teacher's College and, later, a Master's degree from East Tennessee
State University in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles' career as an educator began in 1934 at Jonesborough
High School; a dedicated teacher, she quickly ascended to the rank of administrator and served
as Principal of Cherokee Elementary School for nine years; and

WHEREAS, For many years, Ruth R. Broyles served with acumen and alacrity as an educator in the Washington County School System earning the respect of her peers, superiors, students, and parents alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles displayed her tremendous love and concern for students through her passionate methods of teaching; and

WHEREAS, A member of Sigma Omega Society and the Johnson City Girl Scout Council, Ruth R. Broyles' compassion for children was not limited to the classroom; she participated in numerous organizations to improve the quality of education for the youth of Washington County, including serving on the Tennessee Congress of Parent-Teachers' Board of Managers for 21 years, the Washington County/Johnson City School Study Committee, and the Long Range Planning Committee for the Washington County Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles also utilized her incomparable leadership abilities in many of these organizations serving as President of both the Jonesborough Elementary and High School PTA and the Washington County PTA Council and as Secretary of the Washington County Vocational Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, after her much deserved retirement, Mrs. Broyles remained active in the realm of education, serving as President of the Washington County Retired Teachers Association and the State of Tennessee Retired Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, in light of her outstanding service to the young people of Washington County and the State of Tennessee, Mrs. Broyles earned many awards and distinctions including the E. Harper Johnson Relations Award from the Tennessee Education Association in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles understood that the knowledge of history provides people with cultural identity and a sense of tradition; and

WHEREAS, this deeply rooted belief motivated Mrs. Broyles to serve Washington County in preserving its ties to the past; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles diligently strove to preserve the history of Washington County through her impeccable leadership in various organizations and projects, serving as President of the Washington County Historical Association; Chairwoman of the Jonesborough/Washington County History Museum Administrative Board; and contributing author to the book *The History of Washington County* in 2001; she also worked with the National Association for the Preservation and the Perpetuation of Storytelling; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles was an integral part of her community, diligently serving as Secretary and Treasurer for the Maple Lawn and Old Jonesborough Cemeteries; Treasurer of the Jonesborough/Washington County Library Board; appointed Trustee of the Watauga Regional Library; Chairwoman of the Jonesborough Civic Trust; President of the Tuesday Garden Club; member of the Jonesborough Area Senior Adult Center and Chairwoman of its Advisory Board; and Chairwoman of the Council of Appalachian Christian Village Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles had a very active and successful political career, as she was appointed to the Washington County Commission and elected as Commissioner in 1982 and 1986; Mrs. Broyles also served as a Colonel, Aide de Camp, for the Tennessee Governor's staff; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles was an active and devout member of the Jonesborough Presbyterian Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a choir member, Chairwoman of various committees, and Sunday School Teacher for 65 years; and

WHEREAS, she also served as Elder and President of the Women's Association; the President and Vice-President of the Synodical of the South; Chairwoman of the Holston Presbytery Administrative Committee; Chairwoman of the Search Committee for Holston Presbytery Presbyterian Women; the Historian of Presbyterian Women of Synod of Living Waters; and member of the Division of Ministry, Synod of the Living Waters, and the Church Council for Tusculum College; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, David L. Broyles, who preceded her in death, and was the proud and loving mother of Nancy McCracken, Dava Lee Russell, and Joe Broyles, all of whom survive her; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles will be deeply missed by her sisters, Jessie Taylor and Jean Slagle; seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles' exemplary life embodies the characteristics of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mrs. Ruth R. Broyles, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character, outstanding service to her community, and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ruth R. Broyles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.